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## THE D. O. MILLS EXPEDITION TO CHILE.

The installation of the D. O. Mills Expedition to the Southern Hemisphere was no doubt completed in October. The observatory is erected on the summit of San Cristobal, in the northeast suburbs of Santiago. Its elevation above the city is about 950 feet, the altitude of Santiago above sea-level being 1,800 feet. The buildings, dome, reflecting telescope, spectroscope, etc., were in place early in September, and the latest mail advices stated that the electric line to supply current for maintaining the spectroscope at a constant temperature was under construction. The length of the line from the summit to the electric plant at the base of the hill is one kilometer.

The expedition reached Chile just at the breaking out of a series of labor troubles. This and the storms of winter made the construction of the observatory one of considerable difficulty. At the time of last writing, October 9th, Astronomer WRIGHT, in charge, reported that spectrograms had been secured for determining the velocities of twenty or more stars.

It is expected that a full account of the expedition, accompanied by illustrations of buildings and instruments, will be available for publication in the near future. W. W. C.

THE NEW VARIABLE, 59.1903 *CYGN*.

The new variable in *Cygnus*, first announced by WOLF as a *nova*, and later identified as DM + 37° 38' 76" by BARNARD, was observed here with the 12-inch equatorial telescope for magnitude and position on October 5th. Comparison was made both with photometer and micrometer with the Lund A. G. star 9237 (8<sup>m</sup>.9). Applying the necessary correction of — 1' to the catalogued Declination of this star (announced by Professor H. A. HOWE, in *A. J.* 548), the resulting position is:—

$$\alpha \text{ 1903.0, } 20^h \text{ 14}^m \text{ 57}^s.01 \quad \delta \text{ 1903.0, } + 37^\circ \text{ 08' } 47''.5$$

The magnitude observations were made with the wedge photometer designed by Professor E. C. PICKERING for the determination of faint stellar magnitudes. The wedge constant and the absorption of the shade-glasses have not yet been accurately determined. The provisional values used, however, are